

Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1-31 (cancelled)

32. (Currently Amended) A computerized method for ~~use in~~ managing taxonomic information, comprising:

identifying a first name that specifies an organism;

determining ~~that if~~ the first name is ~~suffieiently similar to a text string of~~ corresponds to a name entry in a names table;

identifying a first taxonomic identifier of the name entry;

determining ~~that if~~ the first taxonomic identifier is included in a classification entry in a classification table allowing taxa to be organized according to more than one classification;

identifying a second taxonomic identifier of the classification entry; and

based on the second taxonomic identifier, identifying a second name.

33. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 32, further comprising:
~~deriving, based on the first name and the second name and original search parameters based on the first name, deriving a revised~~ search parameters.

Claims 34-37 (cancelled)

38. (Currently Amended) A computerized system for ~~use in~~ managing taxonomic information, comprising:

a name identifier component configured to identify a first name that specifies an organism,

a determiner component configured to determine ~~that if the first name is sufficiently similar to a text string of~~ corresponds to a name entry in a names table;

an identifier component configured to identify a first taxonomic ID of the name entry;

another determiner component configured to determine ~~that if the first taxonomic ID is~~ included in a classification entry in a classification table;

a second identifier component configured to identify a second taxonomic ID of the classification entry; and

a third identifier component configured to identify, based on the second taxonomic ID, a second name.

39. (Currently Amended) Computer software, residing on a computer-readable storage medium, comprising a set of instructions for use in a computer system to help cause the computer system to manage taxonomic information, the set of instructions for causing the computer system to:

identify a first name that specifies an organism;

determine ~~that if the first name is sufficiently similar to a text string of~~ corresponds to a name entry in a names table;

identify a first taxonomic ID of the name entry;

determine that the first taxonomic ID is included in a classification entry in a classification table;

identify a second taxonomic ID of the classification entry; and

identify, based on the second taxonomic ID, a second name.

40. (Currently Amended) A system for ~~use in~~ managing taxonomic information, comprising:

a names table in which each entry associates a character string with a name identifier;

a taxon table in which each entry associates a name identifier with a taxon identifier;

a database of classifications that accommodates alternative classifications, the database including:

a reference table in which each entry associates a classification identifier with a taxon that represents the root of the classification; and

a classification table in which each entry associates a taxon identifier with a classification identifier, a relationship attribute, and a second taxon identifier;

a name identifier configured to identify a name that specifies an organism;

a determiner configured to use the name and a database of classifications to help determine a classification for the organism; and

an identifier configured to use the classification to help identify information associated with the organism.

41. (Currently Amended) A computerized method for ~~use in~~ managing taxonomic information, comprising:

providing a database including:

a names table in which each entry associates a character string with a name identifier;

a taxon table in which each entry associates a name identifier with a taxon identifier; and

a database of classifications that accommodates alternative classifications, the database including:

a reference table in which each entry associates a classification identifier with a taxon that represents the root of the classification; and

a classification table in which each entry associates a taxon identifier with a classification identifier, a relationship attribute, and a second taxon identifier;

identifying a name that specifies an organism; and

based on the name and a database of organism classifications, determining a classification for the organism.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, wherein the method further comprises:

based on the classification, identifying information associated with the organism.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, wherein the name is a polynomen.

44. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, wherein the name is a modern name.

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, wherein the name is a trinomen.

46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, wherein the name is a scientific name.

47. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, the name is a non-scientific name.

48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, further comprising:
receiving a request for information including the name; and
based on the request, selecting a database access layer to receive the request.

49. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, further comprising:
receiving a request for information including the name; and
directing the request to an application layer for serving client functions.

50. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, further comprising:
receiving a request for information including the name; and
directing the request to a data layer to determine a unique identifier associated with the organism.

51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, further comprising:
identifying a textual description associated with the organism.

52. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, further comprising:
identifying an illustration associated with the organism.

53. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, further comprising:
identifying a multimedia data object associated with the organism.

54. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, further comprising:
identifying a data pointer associated with the organism.

55. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, further comprising:
basing the identification of the information on a defined domain of information.

56. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, further comprising:
determining a biological classification for the organism.

57. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, further comprising:
determining a geographical classification for the organism.

58. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, further comprising:
determining a non-biological classification for the organism.

59. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 58, further comprising
identifying information associated with another organism that belongs to the
classification.

60. (Currently Amended) A computerized method for ~~use in~~ managing taxonomic information, comprising:

- identifying a first name that specifies an organism;
- associating a first taxon with the first name;
- determining that the first taxon is included in a classification entry in a classification database, the classification database allowing taxa to be organized according to more ~~that~~ than one classification; and
- associating a second taxon with the classification entry.

61. (Currently Amended) A distributed system for ~~use in~~ managing taxonomic information, comprising:

- ~~at least one primary~~ a server having a ~~first part~~ portion of a distributed database, and
- ~~at least one~~ a secondary server in communication with the ~~at least one primary~~ server and having a ~~second part~~ another portion of the distributed database;
- each server comprising:
 - a name identifier configured to identify a first name that specifies an organism,
 - a determiner configured to determine ~~that if the~~ first name is sufficiently similar ~~to a text string of~~ corresponds to a name entry in a names table;
 - an identifier configured to identify a first taxonomic ID of the name entry;
 - another determiner configured to determine ~~that the~~ first taxonomic ID is included in a classification entry in a classification table;
 - a second identifier configured to identify a second taxonomic ID of the classification entry; and

a third identifier configured to identify, based on the second taxonomic ID, a second name;

the ~~primary~~ server having authority to make changes to parts of the distributed database and the ~~secondary~~ server not having authority to make changes to the distributed database.

62. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 40, wherein the name is a polynomen.

63. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 40, wherein the name is a modern name.

64. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 40, wherein the name is a trinomen.

65. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 40, wherein the name is a scientific name.

66. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 40, the name is a non-scientific name.

67. (Currently Amended) A computerized method for ~~use in~~ managing taxonomic information, comprising:

identifying a first name that specifies an organism;

associating the first name with a ~~name~~ an identifier; and

associating a second name with the ~~first name~~ identifier based on objectively derived criteria.

68. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 67, wherein the objectively derived criteria includes a documented associatedtion between the first name and the second name.

69. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the first name is a scientific name and the second name is a common name.

70. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 68 wherein the first name and the second names are scientific names and wherein the second name is a ~~factual~~ variant of the first name.

71. (Currently Amended) A distributed system for ~~use in~~ locating information resources related to biological organisms, the system comprising:

a set of client software for communicating with information management applications serving ~~unique~~-name identifiers associated with ~~unique~~-information identifiers;

a first determiner component to determine that a first ~~unique~~-name identifier is included within one or more classification entries in a classification table on a remote name server;

second determiner component to determine second ~~unique~~-name identifier is associated with the first ~~unique~~-name identifier within a names table on a remote name server; and

a set of service software for distributing ~~unique~~-name identifiers associated with ~~unique~~ associated the information identifiers as a proxy for one or more information management applications.